

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2021

1. Today's guest was Laura Vaughn, Interim Director of Library Services. She reported that currently the library closes at 6:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday and at 4:30 on Fridays. She indicated that in-person traffic at both Roane County and Oak Ridge is very much at pre-pandemic levels. Students love the study rooms and use them for group work. Her biggest challenge is staffing, since she is short two full-time staff members and has a hard time finding temps and/or work-study students. She is trying to find the right balance between e-books and hard copy, since e-books are now more expensive; however, all journals are now online. Marsha and Stan will visit the libraries with Laura to check on ceiling tile leaks and furniture issues.
2. PA-28-01 Emeritus Faculty Policy – This policy has to be updated to comply with changes made by TBR. Names of prospective emeritus faculty must now be sent to the Board from the president during the fall semester. Not only does this add a layer of approval, but also shifts the current timeline.
3. Formula Outcomes/Quality Assurance Funding: Karen Brunner reported on this year's results. All of the TBR schools were down in progression metrics. RSCC was down in Associate degrees earned but up in two-year certificates; down in workforce development hours, but up in awards per FTE. Teresa Duncan pointed out that THEC is continuing to reduce the types of training that can be counted for workforce development hours. Quality Assurance Funding total score this year is 88. Roane State lost the most points from the job placement metric as THEC calculates it. Because THEC looks at tax data and unemployment claims, COVID really impacted all of the community colleges negatively. RSCC was harder hit than some others perhaps because some of our healthcare graduates lost jobs in areas considered elective and shut down during the pandemic. THEC will be re-looking at this metric but not in time to reverse this year's scoring.
4. Boyd Foundation Nurse Practitioner for Vets: Teresa Duncan has had conversations with the Boyd Foundation regarding the need for veterinarian nurse practitioners and vet techs. Randy Boyd wants TN to be recognized as the most pet-friendly state. Teresa will connect the foundation with Dr. Ward for further discussion.
5. RSCC/Energy Sector: A new company, Project Liberty, is coming to Oak Ridge. Within two years they will be needing 400 nuclear engineers and 200 nuclear technicians. Kim Harris has attended meeting with them. They have expressed interest in having RSCC build a curriculum for them. In order to do this, we will need to find an expert in the field who can work with us as a consultant.
6. Knox County Project: Marsha Mathews reported that our update proposal has been submitted to TBR. Building design drawings should be completed by the end of the year. Scott Niermann reported that a selection of the consulting firm to assist with fund raising will be made this week.
7. Clinton Training Facility: the date for the ribbon cutting has been changed to December 10 at 1:00 p.m. EST so the Governor and the Chancellor can attend.
8. Veteran's Wave: Because of the departure of the Veteran's Coordinator, Dr. Ward is stepping in to assist Kat Baker with the Veteran's Wave ceremony. The event will be

November 11 at 11:00 a.m. on the Roane County campus. Dr. (Colonel) Gary Goff will be the keynote speaker. Matt Waters will live stream the event and Geol Greenlee will provide music.

9. New Employee Announcement: Based on a request from Faculty Senate, announcement of new employees will be made in the Communicator. Human Resources will send names to Public Relations for inclusion.